## BENZAMIDE INHIBITORS OF THE P2X7 RECEPTOR

## **Abstract**

The present invention provides benzamide inhibitors of the  $P2X_7$  receptor of the formula:

$$\mathbb{R}^2$$
 $\mathbb{R}^3$ 
 $\mathbb{R}^1$ 
 $\mathbb{R}^1$ 

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wherein R<sup>1</sup>-R<sup>3</sup> are as defined herein. The compounds of the invention are useful in the treatment of IL-1 mediated disorders, including, without limitation, inflammatory diseases such as osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis; allergies, asthma, COPD, cancer, reperfusion or ischemia in stroke or heart attack, autoimmune diseases and other disorders.